

Docket Number: 008312-0308525

PATENT APPLICATION

Client Reference: T7MK-03S1494-1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of

TAKASHI HIKOSAKA, et al.

Group Art Unit: UNKNOWN

Application No.: UNKNOWN

Examiner: UNKNOWN

Filed: February 26, 2004

Confirmation No.: UNKNOWN

For: MAGNETIC RECORDING MEDIUM AND MAGNETIC RECORDING/REPRODUCING APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT CITING APPLICATION INCLUDING PTO-1449

Commissioner for Patents
Mail Stop Patent Application
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

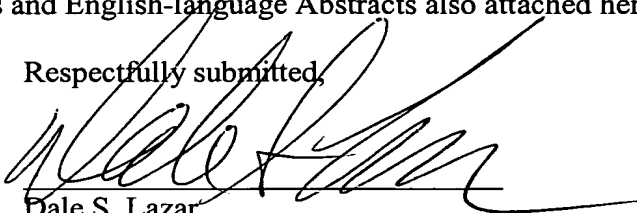
Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.

The applications (copies attached) identified in the attached Appendix are directed to related technical subject matter. The identification of those U.S. Patent Applications are not to be construed as a waiver of secrecy as to those applications now or upon issuance of the present application as a patent. The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the cited applications and the art cited therein during examination.

In addition, relevance of the non-English language references are discussed in the present specification, e.g., see page 3 for comments concerning the Japanese publications and/or in the Background Art Information Sheets and English-language Abstracts also attached hereto.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dale S. Lazar', written over a horizontal line.

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APPENDIX

Examiner's Initials	First Inventor	Application No.	Filing Date	Enclosed
	Kenji SHIMIZU	10/218,570	08/15/2000	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Specification <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drawings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: Filing Receipt
	Takashi HIKOSAKA	10/234,719	09/05/2002	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Specification <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drawings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: Filing Receipt
	Takeshi IWASAKI	10/626,837	07/25/2003	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Specification <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drawings <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: Filing Receipt

The Examiner's initials indicates he/she has considered the cited application relative to the subject application.

DO NOT PRINT the above information on the patent which results from the subject application.